

DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION

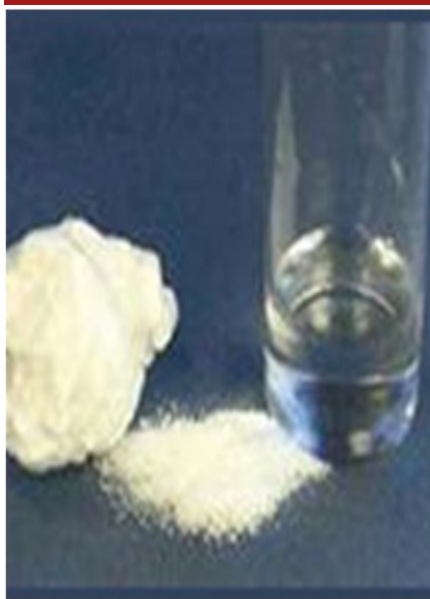
Did You Know?

Club Drugs

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Club drugs are a pharmacologically heterogeneous group of psychoactive drugs that tend to be abused by young adults at bars, nightclubs, concerts, and parties. Gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB), Rohypnol, ketamine, as well as MDMA (ecstasy) and methamphetamine are some of the drugs included in this group. Did you know facts: Coma and seizures can occur following use of GHB. Combined use with other drugs such as alcohol can result in nausea and breathing difficulties. Rohypnol may be lethal when mixed with alcohol and/or other CNS depressants. Ketamine, in high doses, can cause impaired motor function, high blood pressure, and potentially fatal respiratory problems.



GHB: Is predominantly a central nervous system depressant. Food and Drug Administration banned it in 1990.

RISKS: In liquid form, it is clear, odorless, tasteless, and almost undetectable when mixed in a drink. Its effects last from three to six hours. Consumption of less than 1 gram acts as a relaxant, causing a loss of muscle tone and reduced inhibitions. Consumption of 1 to 2 grams causes a strong feeling of relaxation and slows the heart rate and respiration. At this dosage level, GHB also interferes with blood circulation, motor coordination, and balance. In stronger doses, 2 to 4 grams, pronounced interference with motor and speech control occurs. A coma-like sleep may be induced, requiring intubation to wake the user. When mixed with alcohol, the depressant effects of GHB are enhanced. This can lead to respiratory depression, unconsciousness, coma, and overdose. Side effects include nausea, vomiting, delusions, depression, vertigo, hallucinations, seizures, respiratory distress, loss of consciousness, slowed heart rate, lowered blood pressure, amnesia and coma.

ROHYPNOL: Dangerous when taken on its own, and fatally dangerous when combined with alcohol, Rohypnol is horrifyingly infamous for being the "date-rape drug". Rohypnol is a central nervous system (CNS) depressant medication that is not approved or available for medical use in the United States. In this country, it is illegally abused for sedative and muscle-relaxant effects. Because of these effects, it has been associated with sexual assaults.

RISKS: Rohypnol slows down the central nervous system, causing a range of effects, including exhaustion, sedation, confusion, impaired coordination, impaired judgment and memory loss. Use it, and you can be physically and psychologically incapacitated, meaning you're unable to move or think—or you're knocked out. This is why it has been used in targeting people for sexual assault.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS: Rohypnol is lethal when combined with alcohol or other drugs. It can slow the pulse and breathing, leading to unconsciousness, slowed heart rate, suppressed breathing and, ultimately, death.

Source of Information: NIDA and SAMSHA

